

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 25, 2008 has been reviewed carefully and the application has been amended in a sincere effort to place it in condition for allowance.

Claims 2, 4, 20-24 and 28-30 are pending.

Claims 1, 5-19, 25-27 and 31-47 have been cancelled or withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §101

At Paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 21-24 have been amended herein to recite that the method is “embodied in a computer readable medium.” Claims 21 has also been amended to recite that the features are “displayed on a personal web page of the user.” The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit recently held in *In Re Bilski*, (Fed. Cir 2008) that “Therefore, we believe our reliance on the Supreme Court’s machine-or-transformation test as the applicable test for §101 analyses of process claims is sound.” *In Re Bilski*, Slip Opinion at p. 14. It is believed that the amendments to claims 21-24 made herein comply with 35 U.S.C. §101 as interpreted by the Federal Circuit Court.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

At Paragraph 3 of the Office Action, Claims 2, 4, 20-23 and 28-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication 2005/197892 to Bilibin et al. (“Bilibin”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,463,420 to Guidice et al., (“Guidice”).

Applicant's invention as claimed in representative independent claim 2, as amended, comprises in part:

A mail piece tracking system including:

- A. one or more servers that perform the operations of:
 - i. receiving delivery status information from one or more mail piece delivery companies and linking the mail piece delivery status information with respective user identifiers;
 - ii. receiving one or more messages from the senders of the respective mail pieces and linking to the delivery status information an attachment consisting of the one or more messages from the senders of the mail pieces;
 - iii. *producing on a web page listings of the delivery status information for the mail pieces directed to respective users that are associated with the user identifiers; and*
 - iv. *including links to the respective messages in the listings of the delivery status information allowing the user to perform at least one of sending or receiving a message, receiving or paying a bill, verifying information based upon a digital signature; and*
- B. one or more browsers or client executables through which the respective users associated with the user identifiers access the delivery status information and the links to the respective messages.

Bilibin describes in part a system for determining shipment pricing and other particulars based upon a user's origin postal code and an intended destination postal code. The Examiner refers to Figs. 56 and 57 of Bilibin. Those screen shots provide general information about the drop off time that is required for the user to deliver a package to the shipper in order for the package to arrive at the intended destination by a predetermined time. Bilibin does not disclose, teach or suggest Applicant's claimed features of: *producing on a user's personal web page listings of the delivery status information for the mail pieces directed to respective users that are associated with the user identifiers, including links to the respective messages in the listings of the delivery*

status information allowing the user to perform at least one of sending or receiving a message, receiving or paying a bill, and verifying information based upon a digital signature.

Bilibin describes web pages for providing rate information for example, and does not suggest a user's personal, customized web page that is claimed by Applicant. Applicant respectfully submits that Bilibin alone does not render Applicant's invention obvious.

Guidice describes a method and system for online tracking of orders placed with a supplier and "takes place entirely within the confines of the supplier's web site." (Col. 2, lines 12-16). This teaches away from Applicant's claimed invention because Applicant states in the Specification at page 4, line 23-24 that Applicant's system provides "a personalized web page that contains delivery status information about mail pieces directed to or sent by the user." Applicant's system solves a prior problem that required the user to "contact the respective senders to obtain the various identifiers, and then contact each delivery company to obtain the relevant delivery information." (Specification, Page 2, lines 4-6).

Guidice describes a system that takes place on a supplier's web site, and thus teaches away from Applicant's claimed *producing on a user's personal web page listings of the delivery status information for the mail pieces directed to respective users that are associated with the user identifiers*. Accordingly, Guidice alone does not render Applicant's claimed invention obvious.

Moreover, the combination of Bilibin and Guidice does not render Applicant's claimed invention obvious because combining Bilibin's rate and timing information web

page about respective shippers with Guidice's supplier's web page does not disclose teach or suggest Applicant's claimed features such as, for example, *producing on a user's personal web page listings of the delivery status information for the mail pieces directed to respective users that are associated with the user identifiers and producing on a user's personal web page listings of the delivery status information for the mail pieces directed to respective users that are associated with the user identifiers, including links to the respective messages in the listings of the delivery status information allowing the user to perform at least one of sending or receiving a message, receiving or paying a bill, and verifying information based upon a digital signature.*

In order to enhance the claims and to further clarify the distinctions that the present invention has over the cited references, the independent claims have been amended herein. Based upon the amendments and arguments presented hererin, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is not obvious under 35 U.S.C.§103 in view of Bilibin and/or Guidice, alone or in combination.

All independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

All dependent claims are dependent from independent claims which are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, all dependent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account
No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,

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